

VISIT...

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Name: _____

Jack and the Giant Pepper

Once there was a boy named Jack. He lived in the forest with his mother and their pet panda, Archibald. They were happy, but very poor. One day, Mom said, "Jack, we have no money left. You must sell Archibald at the market. Buy food and seeds. Don't buy anything silly!"

So Jack walked with Archibald through the forest to the market. Suddenly, out jumped a purple little man! "Gushing grape juice!" he croaked. "If you give me that panda, I'll give you something *magical*."

Magical. Jack liked that. But he said, "We need food and seeds."

"I'll give you one seed," the old man said. "A *magic* seed. It'll grow into the biggest pepper in the world."

"A giant pepper plant!" Jack said. "I can climb up the vine to the clouds! That's where the mean giant lives. I can steal his treasures and never work again!"

Jack traded the panda, went home, and planted the seed. The next day, a magic plant had grown. But it wasn't a giant vine, it was a giant *pepper*. The plant was two feet high. The pepper was as tall as a house.

"I can't climb a big *pepper* to the giant!" Jack said.

"You must sell the pepper," Mom said. "Please buy food and seeds!"

So Jack rolled the pepper to market. He had to roll it up a big hill. Suddenly, he saw the old man. He was riding Archibald!

"Is that pepper for sale?" asked the man.

"Not to you!" Jack said.

"Not even for a magic toothbrush? How would you like to never brush your teeth again?"

Jack thought. He hated brushing his teeth. Then he said, "No! I must buy food and seeds!"

"I want that pepper," said the man.

"Too bad," said Jack.

"Give it to me!" the man screamed. He leaped from the panda towards Jack! Jack dodged, and the man crashed *into* the pepper. Then the pepper rolled away with him down the hill!

So Jack rode the panda home. He had never ridden Archibald before. It was fun. But they still had no money. Did they have to sell the panda after all? No! Jack said, "Mom, we have the only panda around here. Why don't we teach people how to ride Archibald?"

And so they did. Everyone paid to learn how to ride a panda. Jack always had plenty of money. And he never saw the old man again.

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Exercise A: What did Jack do?

Answer each question. If your instructor doesn't mind, you can look for answers in the story.

1. Remember this part of the story:

"A giant pepper plant!" Jack said. "I can climb up the vine to the clouds! That's where the mean giant lives. I can steal his treasures and never work again!"

How do you think Jack felt? Circle the word that tells how.

sleepy

angry

dumb

happy

2. What did Jack's mother want Jack to buy?

3. How long did it take the magic plant to grow?

4. The old man tried to give Jack something for his panda. What was it?

5. Did anyone near Jack have a panda? Write what Jack said that tells you the answer.

6. How did Jack make money at the end of the story?

7. How did the old man go away?

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Exercise B: Imagine you're Jack!

For this exercise, just think and imagine. Enjoy yourself. You can finish any question on the back of this page. Answer in complete sentences.

1. Imagine you are Jack. What if you got pushed into the pepper by mistake? Tell about your ride down the hill.

2. What if Jack had traded the pepper for the magic toothbrush? Write a short new ending to the story.

3. How do you think Jack got the idea to ride on Archibald?

4. Think about the ending to the story. Do you think Jack will try to use magic again? Explain why or why not.

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Exercise C: Hunt the Pepper!

Now let's hunt a few words! Find each word from the **WORD LIST** and circle it. Words can be side-to-side or up-and-down. Remember, a letter can be part of more than one word!

WORD LIST

JACK

SEED

RIDE

PANDA

GIANT

GRAPE

PURPLE

PEPPER

MARKET

TREASURE

T P G X Q V J A C K

R A R C H I B A L D

E N A M S J B L W Y

A D P A P U R P L E

S A E R T G I A N T

U F D K V X R I D E

R Q P E P P E R J C

E C Z T P S E E D B

Extra Credit!

ARCHIBALD

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Exercise D: Scrambles

1. What do RIDE, DIRE, and RDEI have in common? They all use the same letters. (Don't worry, RDEI isn't a real word.) Below, each word on the right side uses the same letters as one word on the left side. Draw a line between the words that use the same letters. (Hint: Remember, a word's match always has the same *number* of letters.)

APADN

JACK

ULEPPR

SEED

PARGE

RIDE

DEIR

PANDA

ANITG

GIANT

KACJ

GRAPE

EEPPPR

PURPLE

ESED

PEPPER

TEARRUSE

MARKET

TEKRAM

TREASURE

2. Now for a harder trick! Unscramble each of these jumbles into a real word from our story. Write the word on the line.

a. OMM _____

b. DRLOW _____

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Jack and the Giant Pepper (primary) Answer Key:

Exercise A

1. sleepy
2. food and seeds
3. one night
4. magic toothbrush
5. No. Jack said, "Mom, we have the only panda around here."
6. He gave riding lessons on Archibald.
7. He rolled away in the pepper.

Exercise B

All answers vary.

Exercise C

T P G X Q V J A C K
R A R C H I B A L D
E N A M S J B L W Y
A D P A P U R P L E
S A E R T G I A N T
U F D K V X R I D E
R Q P E P P E R J C
E C Z T P S E E D B

Exercise D

1. APADN **PANDA**
ULEPPR **PURPLE**
PARGE **GRAPE**
DEIR **RIDE**
ANITG **GIANT**
KACJ **JACK**
EPPPR **PEPPER**
ESED **SEED**
TEARRUSE **TREASURE**
TEKRAM **MARKET**
2. a. MOM
b. WORLD